



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **B-2**

September 30, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE BUILDING REHABILITATION
APPEALS BOARD
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board which provide for abatement of public nuisance at the following locations:

13509 Deepriver Drive, Whittier
17846 Hemphill Street, La Puente
18001 La Puente Road, La Puente

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Building Code, provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99. The Building Code also provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board, appointed by your Board, for the purpose of hearing appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owners be provided an opportunity to appear before the Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance

by the County. However, your Board adopted modified procedures which delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to your Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action meets the County's Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence and Children and Families' Well-Being as it provides services to the public that have a wide-reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions which constitute a public nuisance. It will require a substandard structure be rebuilt to Code or demolished and the removal of trash, junk, debris, inoperable vehicles, and overgrown vegetation from private property.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

No negative fiscal impact or increase in net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

Your Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before your Board.

ADDRESS: 13509 Deepriver Drive, Whittier

FINDING AND ORDER: The Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following order: That the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation by October 15, 2004, and maintained cleared thereafter.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. Overgrown vegetation, weeds, and debris constituting an unsightly appearance or a danger to public safety and welfare.
3. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
4. Junk and debris scattered about the premises.

ADDRESS: 17846 Hemphill Street, La Puente

FINDING AND ORDERS: The Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) That the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, and miscellaneous personal property by October 15, 2004, and maintained cleared thereafter. (b) That the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed by October 15, 2004.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. Overgrown vegetation, weeds, and debris constituting an unsightly appearance or a danger to public safety and welfare.
3. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
4. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
5. Trash and junk scattered about the premises.
6. Inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 18001 La Puente Road, La Puente

FINDING AND ORDERS: The Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) That the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property including the portable spa, and all excessive vegetation by October 15, 2004, and maintained cleared thereafter. (b) That the structure(s) be rebuilt to Code or demolished by November 4, 2004. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building was open and accessible to children, vandalized, and existed as a fire hazard and a threat to public safety and welfare, until it was barricaded, as requested by the Sheriff's Department.
3. The building is dilapidated.
4. Portions of the exterior wall covering lack a protective coat of paint and are deteriorating.
5. Doors and windows are broken.
6. The roof coverings over the dwelling and garage have deteriorated.
7. The flooring in the dwelling is deteriorating and has decayed.
8. Portions of the interior wall covering in the dwelling are damaged.
9. Portions of the ceiling covering in the dwelling are damaged.
10. The required heating appliance is damaged and inoperable.
11. The nonconforming attached garage is hazardous, in a state of disrepair, and should be demolished.

12. The electrical service is damaged.
13. Fixtures and receptacle outlets in the dwelling and garage are damaged, unsafe, and require cover plates.
14. The dwelling lacks hot and cold running water to the required plumbing fixtures.
15. The water heater lacks an approved vent.
16. Gas and waste piping are uncapped.
17. Portions of the waste, vent, gas, and water piping are damaged and insanitary.
18. The premises contain attractive nuisances dangerous to children, i.e., abandoned or broken equipment, furniture, and junk.
19. The front yard is being used as an illegal storage area, i.e., garbage cans and equipment.
20. The premises contain overgrown vegetation, weeds, trash, and debris.

Portions of the interior of the building were not accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstruct the free use of neighboring property so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
September 30, 2004
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At such time as this recommendation is adopted, please return an approved copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE
Interim Director of Public Works

CC:pc
P:REHAB/BOARDLET/FO1

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel